

THE  
L I F E  
A N D  
C H A R A C T E R  
O F  
*John Barber, Esq;*  
L A T E  
L O R D - M A Y O R  
O F  
L O N D O N,  
D E C E A S E D.  
C O N T A I N I N G.

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| <p>I. Scandalous Reports of the Alderman's Parentage refuted by authentic Affidavits and a Certificate of his Birth.</p> <p>II. Who and what were his Parents, and where he was born.</p> <p>III. His surprizing Rise in the World</p> <p>IV. A General History of the Alderman thro' his Infancy to the Time of his setting up.</p> <p>V. The Methods he made use of to establish himself in Business, worth the Perusal of every young Beginner.</p> <p>VI. His Amours and Gallantries.</p> | <p>VII. A Summary of his Behaviour from the Change of Queen Anne's Ministry, in 1710. to 1726.</p> <p>VIII. The gradual Steps by which he rose to the highest Degree of Magistracy in the City of London, sufficiently described.</p> <p>IX. A just Narrative of whatever was remarkable concerning him from being chosen Alderman to his Decease.</p> <p>X. His general Character, with proper Observations.</p> <p>XI. His Death, Burial, and last Will, or his Disposal of his Estate</p> |
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The Second EDITION.

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L O N D O N:

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(Price One Shilling.)

W. Musgrave.



# T O T H E R E A D E R.



T having been reported, that Mr BARBER was born in *Newgate*; some who were more apt to give Credit to Defamation than Truth, readily came into the Belief of it, affirmed it to be Fact, and spread the Fiction with as much Assurance as if they had all the Reason in the World to be assured of its being a Reality, but nothing is more certain, than that all the Foundation for that malicious Tale was this, and only this,

About two Years after the Death of the Alderman's Mother, his Father, being ruined, as is taken Notice of hereafter, by the Mismanagement and Wickedness of his second Wife, was, as it has been many an honest Man's Fate, thrown into *Newgate* for Debt, Whilst the poor Man lay there, his Son, who was about nine or ten Years old, was every Day with his Father, went of Errands for him, and was of as much Service to him as at that Time of Life he was able; but forever to stop the Mouths of Slanderers, and clear the Point beyond the Power of its being controverted for the future, we have subjoined the following Certificate and Affidavits.

A True and genuine Account, of the Birth and Baptism of JOHN BARRER, Esq; one of the Aldermen of *London*, as appears by the following Certificate and Affidavits annexed.

**T** H E S E are to certify whom it may concern, that JOHN BARBER, Son of MORGAN BARBER, a Barber; and MARY his Wife, born in *Gray's-Inn-Lane*, near the *Dolphin*; was baptized the 11th Day of April, Anno Domini 1675; as appears by an Entry in the Register Book for Christenings belonging to the Parish of *St Andrew*, *Holborn*, *London*; made by Edward Stillingfleet, Doctor in Divinity, the then Rector of the said Parish; and now in my Custody.

Witness my Hand this  
8th Day of October, 1734.

CHA. KING.

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**H** ENRY CORNWALL, of *London*, Gent. maketh Oath, that he carefully examined the Entry in the above Certificate set forth, with the Entry in the Register Book, therein mentioned, together with Charles King, whose Name is subscribed to the said Certificate,

# To the R E A D E R.

*ificate, and in whose Care and Custody the said Register Book then was, and that the said Charles King so set and subscribed his Name thereto, in the Sight and Presence of him the Deponent; and therefore he knows, and believes the said Certificate to be true.*

Sworn the 8<sup>h</sup> Day of Octob. 1734,  
before me, *William Billers, Mayor.*

HEN. CORNWALL.

**A** N N E M I L L E R, *Widow, aged 76 Years, or thereabouts; now living in Gray's Inn Lane, in the Parish of St Andrew Holbourn, in the County of Middlesex, maketh Oath, that she was well acquainted with, and did very well know MORGAN BARBER, and MARY his Wife, mentioned in the above Certificate, for many Years, and before their Intermarriage; The said MORGAN at her first Knowledge of him being a Journeyman to Benjamin Tomlinson, a Barber and Surgeon deceased; the former Husband of the said MARY; after whose Death the said MORGAN, who was always looked upon and esteemed to be an honest and industrious Man, intermarried with the said MARY, with whom she had been longer, and more intimately acquainted, and whom she always looked upon and esteemed to be a very sober, virtuous, honest and industrious Woman; and as such she the said MARY was generally accepted, reputed, and taken to be, by all that knew and were acquainted with her, as she verily believes; she having never heard any other Character of her: That after such Intermarriage with the said MORGAN and the said MARY, she the said MARY brought forth a Son, which (as this Deponent best recollects the Time to be) is about Fifty-nine Years since, That she believes to the best of her Memory she was present both at the Birth, and Baptism of such Son, who was Christened and named JOHN; that she has from his Infancy been well acquainted with his Person, and with his Manner and Character of Life, by her own Knowledge, and by the Information of others, to this present Time; and that therefore she is well assured and well knows, and believes the abovesaid JOHN the true and lawful Son of the above-named MORGAN and MARY BARBER, in the above Certificate mentioned; and JOHN BARBER, Esq; now one of the Aldermen of the City of London, to be one and the same Person.*

Sworn the 28<sup>th</sup> Day  
of October, 1734, before me  
*William Billers, Mayor.*

ANNE MILLER.

**B** O W L E R M I L L E R, *Citizen and Cook of London, aged Fifty-four Years, Son of the abovesaid Anne Miller, Widow; born in Gray's Inn Lane, in the Parish of St Andrew Holbourn in the County of Middlesex; On his Oath sayeth, that he has well known and been acquainted with the Person of JOHN BARBER, Esq; now an Alderman of the City of London, for the Space of forty two Years, or thereabouts; that about that Time he went to School with the said JOHN BARBER, who was then reputed and taken to be the Son of MORGAN BARBER, a Barber, and MARY his Wife, as in the above Certificate is set forth; and who is, as he well knows, and is assured one and the same Person.*

Sworn the 28<sup>th</sup> Day of  
October, 1734 before me  
*William Billers, Mayor.*

BOWLER MILLER.

T H E



THE  
L I F E  
A N D  
C H A R A C T E R  
O F  
*John Barber, Esq;*  
L A T E  
ALDERMAN of *London, &c.*



IF Accounts, when authentick, of Persons who have only made a little more than ordinary Figure in the World, are for that Reason alone generally pleasing to the Publick; the Life of One, who, tho' not born, yet died a Gentleman; who was remarkable from his Birth to his Death; and in a most extraordinary Manner, both publicly and privately distinguish'd himself, and was as much distinguish'd by others; the Life and Conduct, we say, of so great a Favourite of *Fortune*, judiciously accounted for, and faithfully related, cannot fail of finding so universal and ready an Acceptance, as will more than justify the following Publication to the Town.

The Person, who is the principal Subject of these Sheets, was not more remarkable for a Rise of For-

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tune and uncommon Success in the World, than for great natural Parts and valuable Acquirements; for many Virtues and some Vices; which, as the former laid the Foundation of the Superstructure, so the latter, thro' his own Happiness of Management, almost equally assisted, *as will be made appear in the Course of this Treatise*, in carrying it up to the Height it at length arrived at.

The Deceased is now wholly disinterested in the Censure or Applause of Mankind, yet we shall make it our Care to steer between two Extremes, and equally avoid injuring the Memory of the Dead, or offering any false Incense to the Living: Where his Life was worthy Imitation, we shall shew it in the most advantageous Light; but where otherwise, especially if of a private Nature, we shall draw as thick a Veil over it, as a proper Regard to the Justness and Consistency of a full, as well as a faithful Record of his Life and Actions, fit for publick Perusal, will admit of.

The lately popular and much celebrated *JOHN BARBER*, Esq; was born in the Year 1675, of Parents in low Circumstances; who, at the Time of his Birth, lived in a small House in *Gray's-Inn-Lane, Holbourn*. He was his Father's Namesake, and the only Child who survived both Father and Mother: They were not in a Condition to give him any more than a common School Education: A Capacity or an Inclination to any Thing but Play, was not discover'd in him, till he left off School to go Apprentice, when he enter'd upon a Part, which he became thoroughly Master of, and went thro' with great Advantage and Reputation.

But that we may be the better able to refute the many ill-natured Reports, *to say no worse of them*, which have prevail'd in Relation to the Birth and Parentage of our late much-valued Alderman, we are obliged to be a little more particular upon those  
Heads,

Heads and go back to his Father and Mother ; and, if we can, ascertain the Place of his Nativity.

His Father was by Trade a Barber ; or (as the Barbers choose to call it) by Profession a Barber-Surgeon ; tho' in such very indifferent Circumstances, as has been observed, that he was forced to work to maintain his Family, tho' at such a Price as was in his Time much more common, even for ordinary Tradesmen and Shop-keepers to give, than it became some Years afterwards.

However with the little Business he had, he made shift to maintain his Family ; and tho' they lived meanly, they lived honestly : The Mother of our Alderman was an industrious, careful, good Woman ; she brought his Father but little ; but made up for the Want of a Fortune, by assisting her Husband in his Business, and doing every Thing in her Power to do abroad, in an honest Way, to get a Shilling towards their Support at home.

Thus they lived in Credit, well respected by their Neighbours for Industry and Integrity, till his Mother died ; when his Father married a second Wife, the very reverse of the former ; who proved as bad as the other was good ; run her Husband out, and at length ruin'd him : This was when our Alderman was about nine Years of Age ; and then Mr. Sittle, the City Poet, shew'd the first real Kindness to this their Child, to whom he was God-father ; he took him home, cloath'd him, and then put him to School at *Hampstead* ; where he kept him, till he did still kinder Things for him ; he having assured him, when he took him from his Father, that, if he behaved as he ought to do, he would treat him as he deserved ; and as it afterwards proved, he was full as good as his Word.

'Tis much beneath our Design to give a Detail of the little childish Pranks, which are laid to the Charge of the Alderman, when in his Father's House,

House, and at School; most of which seem to owe their Rise to modern Invention: As the doing this would be trifling with, and misusing the Reader, so on the other Hand it would be wicked in us to repeat, for to repeat would be to propagate, the scandalous Stories which have been told, with much Confidence affirm'd to be true, and with great Industry spread over the Kingdom, relating to the Mother of the Alderman, and the Place of his Nativity; in Hopes of rendring him as infamous by Birth, as the making of him to be the Produce of an unlawful Intercourse with a Criminal, and one of the most abandon'd of Prostitutes, could render him.

But as the whole of this has been proved by unexceptionable Affidavits to be a scandalous Forgery, a malicious Invention of his Enemies to lessen him in the Esteem and Affection of his Fellow-Citizens, we justly, as every honest Man should, entirely reject it, as most vile, not to say villainous and detestable.

This Point then being thus settled, and, as we think it must prove, to the Satisfaction of all the disinterested Part of Mankind; and we having before sent him out into the World, let us now shew our Alderman entering upon the Stage of Life; and trace him by the Steps he took, to advance himself from the under Part he began with, to the superior Characters he afterwards appear'd in, before he quitted the Theatre on which he much out-shined most of his co-temporary Actors.

His Education, as we have observed, was but narrow; the excellent natural Parts he afterwards discover'd, had not yet been brought into Exercise; these were a Treasure lock'd up, as it were, in the Mine, which, as soon as broken up, disclosed an inestimable Wealth. He was sent upon Trial to one Mrs. Clark, a Printer and a Widow, in *Thames-street*. His Mistress soon found out his Capacity, and every Day

Day grew more and more in Love with his Behaviour ; and now having been about a Month upon Trial, Mr. *Sittle* was so pleased with the Accounts given of him by his Mistress, that he bound him Apprentice to her, and generously gave her twenty Guineas with him.

This was the Basis of all his future Good ; the first Step to all his after Prosperity. This was a Step taken for him, and he was very careful in every one he from that Day took for himself.

He apply'd with indefatigable Pains to his Business, and soon made himself Master of enough of it, to be taken Notice of ; and make himself distinguish'd ; and long before he was out of his Time, he was reckon'd one of the best Compositors of the Trade. He shew'd a Genius and Capacity uncommon to one of his Age ; and much beyond what could have been expected from a Youth of his Extraction or Education.

Tho' he was not more taken Notice of for being, as the Printers call it, a good Hand, for his Exactness and Expedition, than he was admired for his solid, judicious Deportment, and for Wit and Eloquence, which he made to tally with the former ; and in which he had none who could come up to him, even among those who were much his Seniors, and in all other Respects his Equals.

He persevered with the same Diligence and Attachment, he first set out with to Business, and always kept the main Chance in View, thro' the whole of his Servitude ; so that with great Justice it may be said, never was a Printer better served than Mrs. *Clark*, or ever was a 'Prentice more faithful in the Discharge of his Duty than this her favourite Youth proved, from the Day he came to her, to the Day that he had a Right to go from her. Tho' even this Part of Life he enliven'd ; and towards the latter End of his Time, indulged himself in some few Gallantries ;

lantries ; these he had a peculiar Turn of Mind to, but so happy a Method of conducting, that he never suffer'd his Pleasures to interfere with Affairs of greater Moment, or draw him from the Design he was unalterably resolved to pursue, of establishing himself in the good Opinion of Mankind ; so that whatever of this Sort he engaged in, was only at leisure Hours, to relax and relieve the Mind, when fatigued by a too long and too strenuous an Attendance on Business, and that he might return to Business with an Alacrity, which might assist him to a more agreeable Dispatch of it.

With a Reputation unequall'd by few, excell'd by none, he came out of his Time ; and upon that Stock alone could have commenced Master, and set up for himself ; whatever he wanted in Cash for opening a Printing-House of his own, he could have had upon Credit. No young Beginner was ever more courted to this, all being persuaded that he could not possibly fail of Success ; but he was for moving softly, that he might move the more safely ; he was Master of too much Prudence and Caution, to be led into precipitate Measures ; and was for advancing by Degrees ; well knowing, that Men were oftner undone and ruin'd by having too much Credit given them, than by too little.

Pursuant to this salutary Method of Proceeding, which he was determined in, he began for himself as a Journeyman, and became a Manager for his Mistress, and work'd afterwards in different Printing-Houses about Town ; and his free, open, good-natured Manner of conversing and acting, gain'd upon the Affections, and got him the good Will, of all Persons wherever he came.

But it is Time to view him in a more independent Condition, enough having been said of him in his dependent State. Thro' his own OEconomy, and by some Assistance from Friends, he embraced a favourable

able Opportunity which presented, and in about the Year 1700, open'd a Printing-House in *Queen's-Head-Alley*, from whence he soon after return'd to *Lambeth-Hill*, near *Old Fish-street*; where he continued till he became above Business, and able to act in a much higher Sphere.

And now he took every probable Method in his Power to recommend himself, and get Business; he was for a few Years a downright Printer, without discovering any Inclination for any one Party, or Set of Persons, more than another, but a thorough Endeavour only to oblige whoever employ'd him; and in order to this, he strove to suit himself to every Man's Taste, with whom he had any Thing to do; with the Grave he was the same; the Merry and Jocular could not meet with a better Companion: He would drink all Night with the Man who could not otherwise be obliged; and rather than a Jobb should slip thro' his Fingers, would revel in Love as well as Wine with him, who took most Delight in both.

He was moderate in his Prices, and generous in his Expences, with whomsoever he engaged; gave Credit where it was necessary; was never overpressing when Money was due; and in short, by accommodating himself to every Man's Circumstances, as well as his prevailing Inclination, not only shew'd that he was, at those Years, a very good Judge of human Nature, but cultivated an Interest, which afterwards repaid all his first Lavishments and Fatigues.

This his handsome, generous-spirited Management soon became generally known, and render'd him as generally valued: Every Week brought him an Encrease of Acquaintance and Business; but he was as yet determined not to lay up for a rainy Day, whilst his spending his whole Profits would add to that Business which he did not yet think large enough.

Thus he went on for three or four Years together, and printed for whomever came to him, and what-  
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ever they brought, whether they paid him or not. To Day, a Piece came from his Press for the *Whigs*, to Morrow, for the *Tories*. History and Divinity, Poetry and Prose, Booksellers and Authors were equally acceptable to him, as any of these contributed to advance his chief Design; which was to be thoroughly known, and firmly establish'd; and tho' many guess'd, yet very few knew to what Party or Principles he stood most inclined; and this was a Secret he was careful to keep, till he was assured of such a Number of Friends, as left him no Room to be afraid of his Enemies.

But till this was the Case, as has been mention'd, High-Church or Low-Church, or the Man of no Church; Priest or Presbyterian; for the Ministry or against it, were the same Thing to him; whilst Business went on with him, and he could make the obliging any of them, subservient to the promoting the Interest of a young Beginner.

A-propos to this we cannot omit inserting here, what our Alderman often before, and many Times since he was Alderman, declared to be Fact, which was; that the first Money which he ever laid up, and could call his own (for, as he said, whatever he got before, was always at the Services of those he hoped to get more by) was by the Diet of *Poland*; a Satire wrote by the well-known Mr. *Daniel de Foe*, which had its Reputation in its Day; by this Piece our Alderman got a hundred Pounds clear of all Expence; and he used to say, that, as it was the first hundred Pound he was ever compleatly Master of, so he thought it thrived the best with him of any Money he had ever got; for from that Time he never wanted a hundred Pounds, but went on, increasing, till he was able to command some Thousands.

The Dyet of *Poland* from Mr. BARBER'S Press, was one Indication among many others, which might be given, of his preferring at that Time, Profit to Principle;

Principle ; for, not any thing could be more averſe than that Peformance was to the Way of Thinking he had begun to give ſome Indication of, and which he ſoon after avow'd ; and not only avow'd then, but adhered to from the firſt Diſcloſure of himſelf, to the laſt Hour of his Life; but he ſaid, that he never ſhould have been ſorry for printing that Poem, tho' he had loſt, inſtead of getting Money by it, ſince 'twas the Work of a Perſon, no Man could ever converſe with, without being wiſer and better for that Converſation, unleſs it was his own Fault.

We are now come to the Year 1705. Mr. BARBER at this Time had no Occaſion to ſolicit for Buſineſs, he was well known, and not better known, than beloved ; he was now under no Neceſſity of going abroad, or of taking any extraordinary Methods to force a Trade ; he had as much Work preſs'd upon him, as he knew how to diſpatch. His Name was up among the Bookſellers and Authors in general ; and, if we may be allow'd the Expreſſion, he was become the Idol of a Set of Perſons of Diſtinction, whoſe Wit and Senſe will never be diſputed, but by thoſe who have no Pretenſions to either.

Tho' it was not more his own good Senſe, facetious Converſation, and generous Diſpoſition, which recommended him to theſe particular Friendſhips, and to a general Acceptance as a Companion, than he was indebted for equal Reputation, as a Printer, to the Correctneſs and Beauty, with which every Thing that came under his Hand, was executed.

His Fame among others, drew the Beaux and the Belles to *Lambeth-Hill* ; and tho' we might readily imagine, that neither could have any Thing to do with the *Printer*, tho' they might with the *Man* ; yet among the Number of thoſe, who paid a Regard to Mr. BARBER, we ſhall at leaſt find two, to whom he was under greater Obligations, as a Printer,

ter, than to any other Persons upon the Face of the Earth ; a strong Proof, that Learning, Wit and good Sense are not incompatible with Gaiety.

A Gentleman, one of the brightest Parts in *Britain*, paid Mr. BARBER a Visit, which was succeeded by another from a Lady of distinguish'd Merit ; whose Works will be prized, whilst Eloquence, Wit and good Sense are in Esteem among Mankind : The former was the late Lord *Bolingbroke* ; but it seems almost needless to mention the Lady's Name ; not one of the Fair Sex being at that Time so much in Vogue for these, as Mrs. MANLEY, to whom we are indebted for the *Atalantis* ; *Lucius*, first Christian King of *Britain*, and a Miscellany, not yet collected, of valuable Pieces in Verse and Prose.

The Effects of these Interviews proved very fortunate and happy to our Alderman ; from hence a Friendship and Intimacy commenced, which raised him in Time, to be above wanting the Friendships of any other Persons but themselves, and of those they led him to an Acquaintance with.

Being thus fortified, he appear'd for those who had espoused him ; avow'd his Principles, which he had hitherto carefully conceal'd, and openly declared for CHURCH and Monarchy ; a Declaration he never deviated from ; Principles he ever regulated himself by to the Day of his Death.

An Acquaintance with Mr. *St John* ( for when Mr. BARBER knew him first, the late Lord *Bolingbroke* had no Title ) was follow'd by many agreeable, as well as valuable Acquisitions on the Alderman's Part. Mr. *St John* immediately liked, and soon loved the Man : He introduced him to the great Mr. *Harley*, afterwards Earl of *Oxford* and *Mortimer*, and Lord High Treasurer of *Great Britain* ; to the Duke of *Ormond*, and to the unfortunate Dr. *Atterbury*, late Lord Bishop of *Rockester* : He brought him to the Knowledge of Dr. *Swift*, the inimitable Mr. *Pope*,  
Mr.

Mr. Prior, Mr. Olfworth, and of many other Persons of Distinction and Worth, who became his Friends, and continued their Regard and Value for him to the last.

Even in this brilliant Circle, our Alderman fill'd his Place, and behaved equal to the Expectations, and high Opinion which had been entertain'd of him; and now, as he used to say, he was at the best School that ever Man was in; all Defects of Education were abundantly made up to him, by a Conversation with a Set of the brightest Men of the Age; who, for Learning, Wit and Judgment, fine natural Parts, for every amiable Quality of Mind, and valuable Accomplishments, were not to be more than match'd in the Kingdom.

These were the Persons by whom he regulated his Conduct; he became devoted to their Interest, and they sufficiently afterwards took Care of his; he spared no Pains to discharge his Duty to, and serve them, or any Expences to please them.

We must not hide it, tho' we shall only hint at here, what we shall explain more fully hereafter, that he often risked both Health and Constitution, rather than become any Check to a prevailing Inclination in any of them: He enter'd into all their Pleasures, and they were sure of an agreeable Companion, whenever they engaged Mr. BARBER to be one of the Company: He behaved on all Occasions like a generous, open-hearted, free-spirited *Englishman*, unreserved and merry; loved his Jest, and few Men said better Things, or more of them; treated like a Prince at home, and thought nothing too much to oblige his Friends with abroad.

These were Friends, but we must not forget a Favourite. The Transition from Friendship to Affection, is very easy, and often made, when the most amiable Part of the Species is concern'd. Mrs. Manley had not conversed many Months with

Mr. BARBER, but she began to view him in a different Light from the Rest ; she found, that what had pleased her Ear, had touch'd her Heart ; and she soon found, that his Person, good Sense, and Address, had made a Captive of her, when she only meant a Courtesy. He was too discovering, not to be sensible of the Impression he had made ; and judg'd too well of the Consequences, not to know, that his Interest was too greatly concern'd in improving the Success his Applications had already met with, for him to give over those Applications, till the Possession of the wish'd-for Prize crown'd his Attempt.

But he was now an experienced General in this Part of the Art Military ; and seldom set down before a Town, and oblig'd to raise the Siege. He continued his Attack, and gain'd Ground every Day ; at length a Capitulation was agreed to, and sign'd, upon honourable Terms by both Sides ; and the Conqueror remain'd in Possession of the Fort for several Years ; and even till a merciless, and a more powerful Conqueror took Possession of it, and laid it level with the Ground.

But Metaphor apart : Mr. BARBER was now sure of a Set of Friends, whom he was determin'd to oblige at all Events ; his Inclination and Interest, in this, suited exactly ; they were Persons after his own Heart ; and those Principles he had kept conceal'd till now ; and he was every Way a Man after theirs ; and fit for their Purpose ; and 'tis certain, that the great Regard Mr. *St. Joon* upon all Occasions shew'd for him, and the *peculiar Attachment* of Mrs. *Manley* to him, were Incidents to which he was now indebted for the Prosperity thro' every future Year of Business after his Acquaintance with them which attended him, than to all the other fortunate Accidents, which conspired, either to advance his Fortune, or render him popular ; and to these,

these, especially to Mr. *St. John*, he was obliged for becoming acquainted with most, if not all of those Gentlemen and Persons of Distinction, by whose Means he raised an Estate, which made him much more their Equal, than ever he could have thought of becoming, by the most profitable Trade, as a Printer, which he could have any Hopes, how deserving soever, of falling to his Share.

He had been acquainted with Mrs. *Manley* some Years before this more than ordinary Intimacy commenced; but then 'twas only a slight Acquaintance, such as arises between an Author and a Printer; the Employer and the Employ'd; but when they came to an Ecclarissement, they came to a much more intimate Correspondence; and for the Sake, *only*, of being near the Press and more at hand, to see her own Work done *correctly*, and better attended to than it had been; she had an Apartment fitted up for her, at the House of Mr. BARBER, with whom she resided, to the Day of her Death.

'Twas here that Mrs. *Manley* wrote that well-known, well-receiv'd Tragedy - - - *Lucius*, the first Christian King of *Britain*, a Piece accepted almost as soon as offer'd; and by as good Judges, as ever perhaps were entrusted with the Management of the Theatre; and the Reception it met with from the Town, was the best Testimony that could be given of their good Judgment.

But no Body could know its Worth more than Mrs. *Manley* herself; and she judg'd so judiciously of the good Taste of the Town, that she was resolv'd that this Play should stand or fall by the uninfluenced Determination of the Public: She would not allow any Stock of Reputation she might have gain'd or been favour'd with, as the Reward of former Performances, to come into the  
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Aid of this ; and therefore took all the Care she could to conceal its Author's Name ; at the same Time, she was so unconcern'd as to the pecuniary Advantage it might or might not prove of to herself, that she was fully bent upon introducing of it to the World upon her own Terms, or not to introduce it at all. Pursuant to this Resolution she communicated the Play, and the Conditions on which she would part with it, to proper Persons of her Acquaintance ; and she was soon after waited upon by a Manager from the Theatre ; he read, approved, and readily clos'd with her Proposals : She was positively set against giving herself any Trouble upon the Head ; solliciting was irksome and hateful to her ; she could not bear the Thought of cringing for a Crown or a Guinea ; as her Circumstances, *as she said*, made begging none of her Business, so she would have nothing to do with the Author's third Night ; or trust to Chance or Caprice for her Benefit : She would not bear the Fatigue of a Moment's Expectation or Uncertainty as to the Fate of the Play ; she knew it was a good one, and would not therefore put any Part of its Reputation upon the just or injudicious Performances of Those who were to act it ; but was resolv'd that if there was any Defect upon that Score, they should bear all the Damage, who ought to bear all the Blame.

But 'twas found she judg'd right upon this Occasion ; and, to be just to her Memory, we might add, that she was seldom or never known to do otherwise upon any Occasion : She made her Demand and 'twas readily comply'd with, without any Abatement : Instead of Benefit Nights, she ask'd six hundred Guineas, which they gladly agreed to ; and six hundred Guineas were paid, upon her delivering the Copy into the Managers Hands ; which was a  
Transaction

Transaction they found afterwards greatly to their Advantage to have been concern'd in.

The Run of this Play is undoubtedly well remember'd by the Town; 'twas acted fifteen Nights successively; and to a croud'd House every Night. The Managers took Care to put in for the Author's Claims, as usual every third Night, on which, according to Custom, they rais'd their Prices; but it was themselves, and not Mrs. *Manley*, who received the Benefit of their doing so.

Mr. BARBER printed this Play; and 'tis almost needless to say, that the Profits by the Sale of so celebrated a Tragedy must be far from inconsiderable; so far that the Demand was exceeding large; and in Proportion to the Value, the universal Approbation of those who had seen it had stamp'd upon it; and in Proportion to the Curiosity excited by common Report of those who had not seen it, to read it; so that (and we have it upon good Authority) that there was as much Money got by the printing and Sale of this Play, as the Writer got for allowing it to be acted.

As we shall have no Manner of Occasion to introduce Mrs. *Manley* again, we have chosen to insert altogether here, whatsoever relates to the Intercourse between Mr. BARBER and that Lady, which is necessary for preserving the Connection of our History; or proper for the Public to be made acquainted with.

This Lady's Conversation and Residence with Mr. BARBER, continued the same for some Years; and her Capacity and Conduct were equally concern'd in rendering her Person and Parts subservient both to his Pleasure and Profit at Home, and in promoting his Interest abroad. Every valuable Friend she had in the World, she made a Friend to him; and perhaps, there was not any Person to whom he was more obliged for an extensive Acquaintance

quaintance among the Gay and the Great, than to Mrs. *Manley*, except Mr. *St. John*.

He continued her Favourite, and she his, in particular, all the Time of Lord *Oxford's* Ministry; and was in those memorable Years highly serviceable to the Cause Mr. BARBER was, as deeply as his Station would admit of, engaged in. She was naturally attach'd to the Interest of Monarchy, and therefore heartily espoused the Side which she fancy'd inclined to the same Way of thinking with herself. Several political Pieces of that Day, which common Fame ascribed to other Pens, came wholly from her own; and she often shined in the *EXAMINER*, without the World's knowing that she had any Hand in it. 'Twas indeed by that Canal that she chiefly convey'd her Thoughts on State Affairs to the Town; and for several Months together she wrote the *Examiner*, without any other Person's being concern'd in it, but herself: And to the Day of her Death Mr. BARBER had the Advantages of her Conversation, and the Benefit of her Pension.

But 'tis Time to return more immediately to Mr. BARBER himself. He was about the Year 1709, at the Head of very considerable Business; and, as a Printer, much in Vogue; so that by Booksellers and Authors he had his Hands full: But what was of more Advantage to him than all the rest, he had establish'd his Interest with a Set of Gentlemen, whom he knew, if it should ever turn up Trumps with them, and the Game come into their Hands, would prove better Friends to him, than he had Reason to expect any other Set of Friends upon the Face of the Earth could prove to him; and the Event made it sufficiently evident that he pass'd as good Judgment upon the Matter, as any Man alive could have pass'd; but we may hasten to the fortunate Period. Not any Thing worthy public Observation,

fervation, or any material Alteration in his Circumstances happening to him more than what has been taken Notice of above, from his first Acquaintance with Mr. *St. John*, 'till we find Mr. *St. John* Lord Viscount *Bolingbroke*, and a Minister of State.

But in 1710 came on the Change of the Ministry; Mr. *Barber* had shewed himself zealously attach'd to the Interest of Dr. *Sacheverel*; During the Course of the Doctor's Tryal, he avowed his Cause; opened on his Behalf whenever he came, and could properly put in a Word that might strengthen the Opinion the People had of his Case; he join'd with those who huzza'd the Doctor thro' the Streets when he pass'd and repass'd them to and from *Westminster-Hall*; and those who made Use of the Doctor to carry on much higher Views than merely their own Advancement, which 'twas likely he had himself in View, or the rendering him popular with a Party, gratefully repayed all the Pains Mr. BARBER took to become subservient to their Interest.

Her Majesty *Queen Anne*, soon after Doctor *Sacheverel's* Tryal was over, began, as has been mentioned, to change her Ministry. We are here giving Memoirs only of the Life of Mr. Alderman BARBER; 'twould therefore be foreign to the Purpose, and our Design to encrease these Pages, by a History of so well known, and by Multitudes, so well remembered a Transaction; however thus much may be necessary to say to clear up, and account for, some Particulars in relation to the Favours he afterwards met with, that whoever came into the new Ministry, was Mr. BARBER's Friend to a Man.

This Change which engaged the Attention of all Europe, alarmed the high Allies, but pleased those who were not in the Interest of the grand Confederacy against *France*. It was not compleated at once; it moved gradually, and was effected by Degrees; C but

but however in the Issue it proved a thorough Change. The old Ministry were intirely displaced, and the Administration came as entirely into the Hands of a new one.

This was the Day Mr. BARBER desired to see ; and he saw it, as he had a great Deal of Reason, with Pleasure ; he had now a Set of Friends at the Head of Affairs whom he was sure of ; and who gave him a Lift which greatly enlarged his Prospects. The Person amongst these to whom he was most indebted for Favours afterwards conferr'd on him, was the late Lord Viscount *Bolingbroke*, who was staunch on his Side, stood heartily by him, and never gave over heaping Favours upon him, or procuring them for him, 'till he had set him above the World ; and made a Man of him.

'Twould be endless almost to recount, as well as useless, every particular Act of Kindness done by this Gentleman to the deceased Alderman. He owed to his Recommendation at first, and to his Influence afterwards, as many, and some of them as valuable Perquisites, if we may be allow'd to call them Perquisites, take them together, as fell to the Share of any one Man in his Station of Life, during the few Years that the late Lord *Bolingbroke* was a Principal in the Direction of the Councils of this Nation.

Mr. *Barber* was obliged to the late Lord *Bolingbroke's* Regards for him, to more Business, and of Course for a larger Encrease of Wealth, than he was to all the fortunate Accidents which pour'd Wealth in upon him in the Year 1720 ; for tho' he got more Money at that madding Season than ever he got before, yet it was chiefly to be attributed to what was done for him before, through the Sollicitations and personal Benefactions of the then Lord *Bolingbroke*, that he was in a Condition to make Use of that favourable

Oppor-

Opportunity when it presented ; and will pretty plainly appear to have been the Case if we may take the Alderman's own Word for a Detail of those particular Obligations which he declared he lay under to his valuable Friend, as he always call'd him.

Thro' Mr. *St. John's* Interest with the Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. BARBER came in for a Printer of the Votes ; but when Lord *Bolingbroke* and Secretary of State he got him made Gazetteer ; and Printer of the *London Gazette* ; the *Examiner* and *Mercator* were both done at Mr. BARBER's House ; besides an almost innumerable Number of accidental Pieces which the Circumstances of those Times gave Rise to ; and all of them in Favour of the then Measures of Government ; This was the Time of M.. BARBER's Harvest ; and he made Hay, whilst the Sun shined ; tho' it would not be doing of him Justice, not to acknowledge that all the Time he was in Favour and employ'd by that Ministry, he behaved in as handsome a Manner towards themselves and towards all their Friends, as any Man in his Circumstances ever did or could do ; he spent and lived like a Lord to please them ; and enter'd into every Measure he could think of, that might testify the grateful Sense he had of the continual Obligations conferr'd upon him.

His Income thro' the countenancing of the Ministry was now very great ; and he not only privately made his Acknowledgments and paid his Devoirs to those who were principally the Cause of its being so ; but he laid himself out to do them as much publick Service as he was capable of ; and he proved a prevailing Agent in his Endeavours to promote their general Interest.

Mr. BARBER's Heartiness and Zeal in the common Cause, drew upon him still greater Regards from those whose Cause it was that he had so

arduously engaged in ; and he now received a more distinguishing Mark of their Esteem, than any, or perhaps all, that had been given him before ; and even this he charged chiefly to the Account of his good and great Friend, to whom he was Debtor for many, for most of the beneficial Branches of Business he was already in the Possession of.

This extraordinary Grant, came immediately thro' the Hands of the Earl of *Oxford* and *Mortimer*, at that Time Lord High Treasurer of *Great Britain* ; but the Application for it to the Lord High Treasurer on the Behalf of Mr. *BARBER*, was made by the late Lord *Bolingbroke* ; and their two powerful Intercessions join'd in a Request to her Majesty for the passing of it.

The Boon, thus apply'd for and thus procured, was no less than a Patent to Mr. *Barber* to be Queen or King's Printer, after the Expiration of that Patent Mr. *Baskett* was, and is in the Possession of. Her Majesty readily gave Way to their Recommendation, and the proper Orders were given for the making of it out in the accusom'd Form ; and for its passing the Seal accordingly.

No Time was lost ; these Orders were executed with all the Expedition the Nature of the Affair would admit of. Strong Applications and great Interest were made against this reversionary Grant to our Alderman from several Quarters ; --- by those who envy'd him the Honour and the Profits of the Place ; and particularly by those who would have the latter of these especially continue in the same Canal they had for so many Years roll'd through.

But neither Money or Management would do, tho' both were brought in, to assist the Disappointment of Mr. *Barber* ; the Affair was thoroughly canvass'd, strongly opposed, but more strongly supported.

ported. Mr. *Barber* knowing his Dependance, was not afraid of the Consequence; and the Issue proved, that he judged right.

The Patent was compleated; when it had pass'd the Seals, 'twas according to the Lord Treasurer's Directions, brought to his Lordship's House in *York-Buildings*, and Mr. *Barber* had Notice to attend him there. He accordingly attended the next Morning, where he met the late Lord *Bolingbroke*, Dr. *Swift*, *Arthur Moore*, Esq; who was then one of the Lords of Trade and Plantations, with several others of his Friends: These congratulated him, and wish'd him Joy of his good Success; and were very merry with him, upon his carrying his Point, against so many Enemies, and the various Artifices and Attempts they had made Use of, to defeat him, and prevent his doing so.

In the Height of their Alacrity, the Earl of *Oxford* enter'd the Room, with the Patent in his Hand; and after the common Address was over, his Lordship himself presented it to Mr. *Barber*, with these remarkable Words, which should always be remembered to his Lordship's Honour - - - " Sir, *says the*  
 " *Lord Treasurer, speaking to Mr. Barber*, the Im-  
 " portunity of my Friends, and your Merit, were  
 " my only Motives to procure for you, what I now  
 " present to you; both had their Weight with the  
 " Queen herself. Her Majesty prefers Merit to  
 " all other Considerations; and, whilst I have the  
 " Honour of her Commands, I'll endeavour to  
 " make it the Rule of my Conduct; I am persua-  
 " ded you will allow, that it has been so upon this  
 " Occasion, when I assure you, Mr. *Barber*, that I  
 " have done that for you, for Nothing, which I  
 " could have had six thousand Guineas to have done  
 " for another; but the Queen's Favours shall never  
 " be sold, whilst I have any Influence in their Dis-  
 " posal; and 'tis my greatest Satisfaction, that I

" can

“ can serve you, and oblige my Friends by doing  
 “ so. I hope you may live to enjoy the Fruits of  
 “ her Majesty’s Goodness to you ; and I don’t  
 “ doubt, but you will continue to act in a Manner,  
 “ that may still more confirm her Majesty in her  
 “ good Opinion of you.

His Lordship then gave the Patent to Mr. *Barber*, who received it with great Submission and Thankfulness, and immediately said - - - - “ My Lord, I  
 “ never could or can deserve such a Testimony of  
 “ her Majesty’s Regard ; the Benefaction is enhanced  
 “ by the manner of conveying it. I receive the  
 “ Royal Gift from the best and greatest Man in *Britain* ; and I am so far unable to express the grateful Sense that I have of her Majesty’s and your  
 “ Lordship’s Goodness to me, that I am hardly able  
 “ to speak at all ; but - - - - *Jack Barber* shall be  
 “ *Jack Barber* still, and never forget the Obligations that he is under to the Day of his Death ;  
 “ and if your Lordship won’t take my Word, here’s  
 “ my Bail ;” turning to Lord *Bolingbroke*, and other Friends about him.

The Laugh went round ; they shook Hands and parted. Lord *Oxford* and Lord *Bolingbroke* got into their Chariots, and went to Court ; and, after having return’d Mr. *Barber*’s dutiful Acknowledgment to her Majesty in Form, Lord *Oxford* made her Majesty very merry with the rest of the Story ; and the Queen, as she often would, laugh’d very heartily.

Our Alderman was now upon his Parole ; which, to do him Justice, he never broke. He always preserved a due Sense of the high Obligation he lay under to his Royal Benefactor, whilst the Queen lived ; and an Affection for the Memory of her late Majesty Queen *Anne*, he persevered in to the last ; and when ’twas no longer in his Power to do Duty, or Service to the Earl of *Oxford*, or several of  
 his

his deceased Friends, he paid all the Honour to their Names, 'twas in his Power to pay.

The Night of this fortunate Day was devoted to communicate the Event; and to use his own Words, as near as we can remember them at this Distance of Time, he wet his Commission, as he call'd it, in as agreeable a Manner, with as agreeable Company, as ever Man engaged.

At this Period we may be allow'd to look upon Mr. Barber, at the Zenith he ever arrived at, during the Ministry of the Earl of Oxford; he was in high Favour with every Gentleman in that Administration; and with every Gentleman, who was a Friend to it. Wealth flow'd in apace upon him; and the World, to use the common Expression, went well with him; he roll'd in Business, yet revell'd in Pleasures; he was every Way much higher and happier than he ever had any Reason to expect; and yet all this was very far from what his good Stars intended him, and Fortune had yet in Store for him: No, she set him upon a much loftier Pinnacle afterwards, to which she mounted him by just Gradations, and not in a Moment of Time; so that he never grew giddy with the Height, or was ever in Danger, but once, of tumbling, or being tumbled down. He behaved with much Steadiness; with a Sameness thro' every Stage of Life; and seem'd at all Times so judiciously to regulate his Conduct by his Circumstances, and the Situation he was in, as shew'd much Presence of Mind; and evidenced to Mankind, that he knew himself well; was thoroughly Master of his Passions, could command his Temper upon all Occasions; and was every Way qualify'd to discharge his Duty, and maintain his Ground, whatever Post might have been assign'd him to act in.

But we are not yet to view him in his more exalted Station; we are rather to see him fall, before  
he

he rises higher ; and a Sort of a Check given to his Career, by a fatal Accident ; a dreadful Blow to the Fortune of his Friends, especially by which some of them were undone, and which had like to have proved ruinous to them all. This gloomy Prospect was occasion'd by the much lamented Death of their Royal Mistress, her late Majesty Queen *Anne*. This sad Event changed the Scene of a sudden, struck a Damp upon all their Spirits, and threw a Cloud over their Sun-shine. This was an Eclipse some of Mr. *Barber*'s Friends never came out of ; but he himself appear'd afterwards with greater Lustre than before.

However we should not yet bring him to this misfortunate Period, which did not commence, till about two Years after his receiving his Patent ; we are still to view him in a much more advantageous Light, baskin in the Sun-shine of ministerial Favour ; himself a Favourite of the Sons of Fortune.

And now, whether his Inclination and Duty might tally, or not, *which we shan't pretend to determine*, he so wholly gave himself up to the Dictates of his Superiors ; and to oblige those he had Obligations to, and farther Expectations from, that he seem'd to have no Views of his own to pursue, or Passions to indulge, but what he would readily make give Way to the Interest or Gratification of his Patrons ; to whom he had intirely devoted himself, and made his Time, Day and Night, wholly subservient to the obeying of their Commands, or assisting their Pleasures.

He was then in the Vigour of his Years, all Alacrity and full of Spirits ; was equal to whatever the *Girl* or the *Glass* could tempt him to ; of a hail Constitution, tho' he often try'd it, rather than baulk his Friend or his Bottle : These shared his Nights, the Day was devoted to Business ; and during that whole Administration he chiefly thus divided his  
Time ;

Times ; so that perhaps no Man, in so short a Space, ever drank more harder, than our late worthy Alderman ; but this was principally to render himself more sociable to some Persons, whom, he found, were obliged and pleased by such Compliances in him.

And it may be as a-propos here, as any where, to give a corroborating Assurance, from the Alderman's own Lips, that the above is a true and genuine Representation of his Behaviour at that Time ; which, if necessary, could be supported by the Affidavit of a Gentleman now living ; we say, as corroborating an Evidence of this, as the following Declaration of the Alderman's will supply us with.

About a Year or more after the Accession of his late Majesty King *George* the first, and the Dissolution of the former Ministry, some of whom were fled, the Lord *Oxford* in the *Tower*, and all displaced and dispersed, Mr. BARBER met an intimate Acquaintance, accidentally in the Street, when, after mutual Salutation, and an Enquiry about each other's Welfare, Mr. BARBER said, " I am as well  
" as I can be, considering the Disaster that has be-  
" fallen both my Friends and myself, and such a  
" Set of Friends they were to me, that I believe no  
" Man ever had a better, and such as I never expect  
" to have again ; but they are gone ; and 'tis now  
" out of their Power to do for me what they intend-  
" ed to do ; however, says he, I have saved three  
" thousand Pounds, which I got by them ; I spent a  
" thousand Pounds with them ; and they owe me a  
" thousand Pounds, which, as they are out of Place,  
" I am not to expect from them ; and I heartily for-  
" give them that, and God bless them." And immediately added - - - " Tho' the Devil take them for  
" making me spoil one of the best Constitutions, that  
D " any

“ any Man upon Earth ever had, by keeping them  
“ Company.”

All this Time Mrs. *Manley* was the domestic Favourite ; tho’ soon after the Demise of the Queen, he began to entertain an Esteem for one, who succeeded at Mrs. *Manley*’s Death, which happen’d a few Years after the former, to her Place in his House and Affection ; who proved an excellent Manager of his Affairs ; faithful to her Trust, and to the Confidence reposed in her, and just to him to the last Hour of his Life ; all which appears, the Alderman was fully convinced of, by the large Appointment he has made for a Provision for her after his Decease ; who, during his Life, was Mistress of his House, and lived in a handsome, sumptuous Manner, suitable to his opulent Fortune.

If Mr. BARBER was greatly a Gainer by the Government, and those who were Friends to the Government during the four last Years of the Reign of her Majesty Queen *Anne*, ’tis certain, that he as much deserved what he got, as perhaps any Man ever did, who was employ’d in the like Station. He made Use of all the good Sense, Accuracy and Eloquence he was Master of, to argue the Cause of the Ministry, and bring People over to an Approbation of the then public Measures ; and a Dislike of the Persons and Proceedings of the former Ministry, wherever he came. These were everlasting Topics of Discourse with him ; by these he made many Profelites to his Way of Thinking, and Friends to his Patrons ; render’d himself popular ; and became in so great Esteem with the High Party, as it was call’d, that not any Man, to consider him in that Light, of his Condition in Life, thro’ the whole City of *London*, was more trusted, or better beloved by that Side than himself.

At the same Time his Dispatch of Business, and the exact Manner, in which every Thing

was

was perform'd, that came to his Hands as a Printer, procured him a Reputation, at that Time of Day, superior to that of most, if not all, the other Printers in Town; and this Vogue, which he was deservedly in, was not only of great Advantage to him then, but so highly serviceable to him afterwards, that by the continual Supplies, which on that Account chiefly, crouded in upon him from all Sides, he had such a constant Fullness of Business, as very much contributed to make up the Loss he sustain'd, by the Spring-Head's becoming dry; from whence he had, for almost four Years together, received the largest Benefits.

But the Manner of his Behaviour, as we observed before, to every Man he had any Dealings with, could not fail of engaging them, for the Time to come, after the first Acquaintance, in his Interest. The Man who had once employ'd him, would always employ him; he treated all Persons, whom he had equal Expectations from, alike: He humour'd their Foibles, indulged their Taste, enter'd into their Pleasures, studied their Passions, and always, if it would answer his End, join'd them in the gratifying their most prevailing Inclinations; by which Means he made his own, and the private Vices of others, among the lower, as well as the higher Class of Mankind, turn to his Advantage.

And if Mr. BARBER's good Friends at the Helm were unalterable such to him all the Time they continued there, he was as true and faithful to them; just to the Trust reposed in him; secret in whatever was committed to him in Confidence, and indefatigable and unwearied in promoting and furthering whatever might be of Service to their Affairs, in Return for their Kindness to him. Those, who trusted Mr. BARBER, were sure never to be betray'd; those, who employ'd him, were sure to be pleased; those, who had any Manner of Expectations from

him, were certain that they should not be disappointed. He behaved with great Integrity to his Friends, when in Place ; and when out of Place, when they were no longer able to behave to him in the beneficial Manner they had done, his Regard for them was the same it ever had been ; and he embraced every Opportunity that offer'd, to shew his Gratitude, and testify the just Sense he had of his former Obligations to them.

Whilst Mr. BARBER's great Friends were Favourites at Court, from the first of their becoming so, to the much-mourn'd Death of their Royal Mistress, all was Sun-shine, gay and gallant with our Alderman ; he had good Upholders, was well supply'd with Business of the most profitable Sort ; he flourish'd, and grew richer and richer every Day. He was noted for keeping a good House, and a very plentiful and a very elegant Table ; and for having a Resort to his House of the best of Company ; and for being himself a facetious, and a very agreeable Companion.

But this Scene shifted in the Year 1714 ; and a State of Things presented, which seem'd to look with a threatening Aspect upon Mr. BARBER, tho' with one much more so, as was experienced afterwards, upon some above him ; but as we are not writing a History of those Times, but merely the Life of the late Alderman, we shall strictly confine ourselves, and keep close to our first Design, and not enter upon Particulars relating to any Persons or Facts, which are not necessary to be taken Notice of, for the rendering this Work compleat.

But consistent even with this Resolution, we are obliged to mention (though we shall do little more than just mention it) that the Hand which at this Time reduced their Sovereign to an Equality with the meanest of those who had been her Subjects ; and had laid one of the best of Women as well

as Queens in the Dust, struck our Alderman with a Panick ; which as no less could be expected, considering the Circumstances of Affairs, it was some Time before he recover'd from,

He saw those in much higher Stations of Life than himself ; and who were much deeper as he imagined in the Secret of the Day, than he was let into, in a thorough Consternation and greatly uneasy ; he then began to look back upon his own Conduct ; and like a Sinner upon his Death-bed was frighten'd ; and thought, if he had done any thing amiss, it was then high Time to repent. He began to fancy that to oblige those he was under the highest Obligations to, perhaps he might have strain'd Matters a little too far ; and that if so it was proper Time to look about him, when those on whom he had his Dependance, as well as from whom he had his Expectations, were in a State of Uncertainty, and Confusion ; and were so little capable of defending him, and of bearing him harmless, if he had gone something too much out of the Way to oblige and serve them, that they seem'd not to know what would become of themselves ; or how they should be behaved to, on Account of their own Conduct.

Yet while under this Dilemma, and in the midst of all his Disquietude, and Uncertainty ; when he neither was or could be determined in any Thing else, he became absolutely resolved, and determined within himself ; that he would stand and fall if Occasion required it, by his Friends ; and that those who had been such to him in the Time of their Prosperity, when his Part was rather to receive than give, should never have any Cause to reproach him with deserting of them in the Day of Difficulty ; as he had shared in their good Fortune, he layed it down with himself, as what he never would or indeed ever did depart from, that if it might prove of any Service to them he would take his

Part

Part of their Sufferings and Share of their ill Fortune.

A Conduct so honourable and so equitable ; and a Conduct he strictly adhered to, gain'd upon the Affections of his Friends which was very great for him before ; and establish'd such a Reputation for him with all Men of Honour as wanted no Addition ; or was ever added to 'till he came to act in a larger Sphere ; and lay himself out in the Service, and for the Interest of the ever grateful Livery-men and Citizens of *London*.

But the Time he was most capable to do this in, was an *Æra* we are not yet arrived at ; we must first trace him thro' a Series of Years and Transactions not yet spoken of, before we view him the Darling of the Citizens of *London* ; and the most popular and best beloved Man who perhaps ever executed the Office of chief Magistrate of the Metropolis of the Kingdom.

Long before this came to be the Case, as it was by Degrees he arrived to and deserved this, he was not without his Friends in the City ; he was liked and of Course valued by the Liverymen of *London* from the Day he became one of their Number, and even many Years before, that he was become acceptable with whomsoever of them he conversed ; having thus his Friends in the City as well as the Court, the first publick Instance the Former gave him of their being really such to him, was preferring him to others who bid for it, and allowing him to become Purchaser for the Place of City-Printer ; a Place of Honour and Profit. This he enjoy'd many Years ; it cost him five hundred Pounds ; and at the Time he quitted Business ; which was not 'till after his being chosen Alderman, and his Return from *Naples*, as shall be shewn in its proper Place ; he sold it for the same Sum he had paid for it to Mr. *James*, a well-known Printer in

*Little-Britain* ;

*Little-Britain* ; whose Widow enjoys the Benefit of it to this Day.

But before we part with our late Alderman in the gayer Scenes of Life, we must view him in his Gaiety a little more than we have already done ; and must have one Joke with him ; but a Joke that would not be displeasing to him, who laugh'd at it himself, tho' in Pain ; and who loved a Joke, confining it to the proper Meaning of the Word only, as well as any Man in *Britain*.

The Effects of the Flask, high Living, continual Entertainments, and other Gallantries of Youth, discover'd themselves early in the Man, who seem'd to be most happy when it was in his Power to please his Friends best : His complying Temper cost him many a Pang ; and the Gout attack'd him several Years before he was under any Apprehensions of its Approach ; this troublesome Guest made him the first Visit before he was forty Years of Age ; and never fail'd to renew the unacceptable Acquaintance, such common Intervals only excepted as is usual for such sort of Visitants to observe, 'till within a small Time of his being out of the Reach of Pain or Pleasure on this Side of the Grave ; tho' it is thought, and not unlikely, that it might keep him Company even to his last Moments ; and was the principal Cause of bringing them on.

But independant of that Part, we return to our Story : Being in his more juvenile Years taken ill with the Gout, which he had then never had but a Fit or two of before ; and this Fit proving something more violent than the rest, he was more constantly than formerly upon the like Occasion visited by the Doctors ; and one of these coming one Morning a little more early than ordinary to see him ; had like to have been too quick for an *agreeable Nurse*, who had taken Care of him the preceding Night ; the Lady had but just Time to make her Escape, with  
her

her Paraphenalia in her Hands, whilst the Doctor was coming up Stairs ; and stepping into her Slippers which stood the readiest to receive her, forgot in her Fright her fine laced Shoes, which stood a little more under the Bed. The Doctor being admitted, as ill Luck would have it, espied these Appurtunances of the fair Fugitive's as he enter'd the Chamber ; however, takes no Notice of the Disorder he was sensible his unseasonable Visit had occasion'd ; but sits down and talks to his Patient ; who was far from being in any very great Extremity, his Pain having been for some Days upon the Abatement ; and therefore he talk'd pretty chearfully ; and merrily, rather than otherwise to the Doctor ; but yet several Times complain'd of his great Toe, and that all the Pain he had lay there ; upon which, when the Doctor had comforted and heartened him up, with the Hopes of his being perfectly easy in a few Days ; had prescribed, and was just a going to take his Leave ; he stoops and gets hold of the Lady's Shoes ; and turning them about and viewing them, he says to his Patient: *These are very pretty indeed ; but, dear Sir ! I don't wonder that you complain so much as you do of a Pain in your Toe, when you use yourself to such narrow Toe'd Shoes as these are.* The Joke did not prove disagreeable ; the Laugh went about, and the Doctor and his Patient were many Times afterwards very merry about it.

But this ludicrous Relation, and the only one we have been particular in, or shall enter upon, tho' we have placed it here, we must not allow so to break in upon the Part we digressed from, as not immediately to return to where we left off. The fatal Blow was now given by Heaven, which disconcerted all their Measures ; and threw Mr. BARBON and his Friends as we have observed into much Anxiety and Uneasiness ; but however disastrous

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that Event proved to some of them, Fortune never forsook him ; she follow'd him wherever he went, and Success attended him in whatever he undertook ; which Way soever he turn'd him ; and his Behaviour now, to those who had served him, but were no longer able to do it in the Manner they had done it before, was such, was so honourable, so grateful, that Mankind in general thought that the Kindnesses he had met with were no more than he had deserved ; and seem'd far from envying of him any Benefits arising from these.

When his Friends could no longer serve him, he endeavour'd to serve them ; and never gave over his Attempts, on their Behalf, whilst he could in any Method be of Advantage to them, during their Difficulties, whatever Hazards he run, or Expence he was at ; and tho' Things were now turning into another Channel than what they had run in, and there was no Prospect of any other, than a thorough Change of both the Men and Measures made use of during the last four Years of her Majesty's Life ; yet he never falter'd ; or seem'd to hesitate or waver a Moment ; tho' he had all the Reason in the World to believe or rather be assured, that there would come on a fiery Trial ; and be a strict calling to an Account, as it afterwards appear'd ; in which he could not pretend to know what might be his Case ; or how it would fare with those he had adhered to in the Time of their Prosperity ; yet was he bravely and honestly resolved still to adhere to them, be the Event to himself of doing so, what it would ; and accordingly he openly avow'd their Cause ; declared himself still their fast Friend ; and as boldly enter'd, upon all Occasions, both publickly and privately into the Vindication and Defence of the former Ministry, and their whole Conduct, when every Man of them was turn'd out ; the Chiefs of them accused of Male-practices ; and a Prosecution

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actually commenced against some ; and he did not then know but that his Turn might have been next, upon the like Account ; we say that in this dangerous critical Juncture, (and to his Honour let it be remember'd) our Alderman behaved as undauntedly in Behalf of his Friends in Affliction ; and was as strenuous and as open in their Justification of them, and their former Measures, as ever he had been, when they had the Happiness of their Sovereign's Confidence and Esteem ; and were in full Possession of their Posts and Power.

This Behaviour of Mr. BARBER's establish'd him in the good Opinion of all Men of Honour ; especially of all those who were Favourers of the late Administration ; and gave him a Reputation with them, even preferable, to what he had 'till that Time, enjoy'd. A Reputation which proved mutually advantageous ; and was of great Benefit to many, otherwise unfortunate Gentlemen, and to himself afterwards.

Things being turn'd upside down, and Mr. BARBER without any farther Expectations, but what were ugly ones, from the Government, applied himself with his usual Attention to the common Business of his Printing-House, where he found Employment enough ; his political Prospects, as he apprehended, were all terminating apace ; and he became once more, as he said, a mere Printer.

But in this, he was not altogether right in his Conjectures ; for, if he was no longer to be concern'd for the Gentlemen in the Ministry, he soon found himself engaged with those who opposed their Proceedings ; so that Politicks became again his Province almost as much as ever it had been, when his Friends directed those of this Nation, and never made any Scruple of letting him into the Secret of them.

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And the Staff being now out of the Hand able to protect him, whatsoever Lengths he has gone on their Behalf, he had his Rebuffs ; as there are, or ever were, few Men but who meet with more or less of these, if they venture to enter the List, how much soever Truth and Justice may be on their Side, against him who wears the Sword ; has Power on his Side, and may when he pleases, at least whilst surrounded with *Janizaries* and a Banditti, draw down the secular Arm to aid a bad Cause, or distress him who dares be so honest as to appear on the Behalf of a good one.

Mr. BARBER in the Course of his Business, was not wholly a Stranger to a Serjeant at Arms ; or an Usher of the *Black Rod* ; but he was not so well acquainted with the *Greyhound*, and yet this was a State Implement he had Dealings with, after he had done concerning himself with the Press ; he was obliged to come within View of one of these ; but the Person who had it at that Time, immediately under his Direction, by his gentlemanly Behaviour during the Course, which was not very long ; and by the mutual Civilities which upon that Occasion pass'd between them ; made the Whole prove rather Matter of Amusement in the Issue, than any real Concern to him, as will appear in its proper Place.

But to be a little more explicit ; It cannot be a Surprize to any Gentleman, who is not wholly unacquainted with the Nature of those Affairs, that a Person so much concern'd as Mr. BARBER, for many Years was, with Persons who opposed an Administration which Mr. BARBER had no Interest in, but so far from it, that he had no Affection for them ; and of Consequence, it could have but little for him ; we say, it can be no Wonder that the Administration which took Place at the Beginning of his late Majesty's Reign, should not receive with Complacency what came to the World through a

Canal which had for some Years before, been always open, and chiefly, if not only, to what was judged to be inconsistent with their Interest, for the Publick to be made acquainted with.

And yet (to do an opposite Side Justice, as well as to pay deserved Regard to his own Prudence and Judgment) but a small Part of this Sort of Treatment even in those dubious Times, fell to our Alderman's Share ; whether *Ministerial Tyranny*, was not come to that Height, which has been talk'd of in former Days ; or which it may perhaps in future Times arrive at, we cannot determine ; but it is certain he lay but very seldom liable to the Lash ; and whenever he did, he always behaved in so happy and judicious a Manner, that he preserved his Principal ; kept him secret, whom he had promised to keep secret ; and yet saved himself.

No Man concern'd with him, could ever accuse him of making any Discoveries, which he had not given him free Leave to make ; and yet in all those Times of Difficulty he took Care both of himself and his Author ; so that he never suffer'd a Prosecution, but what he baffled in the Issue ; or ever let an Author be known, but who desired to be known, as not being either ashamed or afraid of being so.

Thus true to the Trust reposed in him ; grateful and just to his Friends ; and not afraid of his Enemies ; respected and valued by all whom dealt with him, he carried on a large extensive Trade ; grew into Esteem throughout the City ; and popular in the Ward where he lived ; his old Friends loved him ; and he was making new ones every Day ; his Wealth increased, and of Course his Influence ; and in about the Year 1719, he was look'd upon to have a very good Share in ten thousand Pounds ; and yet no Man seem'd to grudge him what he had got ; he had all along kept up to the genteel, handsome

handsome Manner of Behaviour, he at first set out with ; lived as gentlemanly pleasurable a Life, as most Men in the City, and took as much Delight as ever he had done in obliging and being serviceable to his Friends.

In these agreeable Circumstances, in this happy Situation, a new Prospect opens to his View ; and he that had long been the Favourite of Fortune, still proves a Darling.

The Year 1720 came on : A Year which so many have Cause to deplore ; so few to remember with Pleasure ; but among those few, those very few, our Alderman was one. He ventured in the grand Lottery ; took Part in the universal Chance of the Day ; and risked the chief Part of all that he was worth in the World at once. He trusted almost his All, in one Bottom in a *dangerous Sea*, but made a most successful Voyage ; tho' Thousands were shipwreck'd and undone, who had no more Rocks or Shoals, or any greater Hazards to run, than himself. - - - One Testimony which might be added to the many Thousands which have already been given, to the Justness of Mr. *Dryden's* Observation, in those curious Lines, if we don't make them otherwise for want of a right Recollection.

*The HAPPY have whole Days, and those they USE,  
The UNHAPPY have but Hours, and those they LOSE.*

Circumstances which must certainly make a wide Difference in the general Account of humane Life.

We have now brought our Alderman as forward as the Year 1720 ; a fatal Year to Thousands ; but a very fortunate Year to him ; and in which he accumulated much more Wealth than he had been able to attain to, thro' a long Course of Years, and by much Industry and Diligence before. Fortune gave him

him a Lift at once ; she took him by the Hand, and guided him thro' those Labyrinths and Intricacies not only with Safety, but Success, wherein such Multitudes were bewilder'd and lost.

'Tis well known, that in the Year 1720, Mr. BARBER got upwards of thirty thousand Pounds by the publick Stocks, and chiefly by the extraordinary rise of South-Sea Stock ; which he was so lucky, as to have laid the most considerable Sums he was Master of in the World, out in, sometime before the South-Sea Scheme took Place ; and, of Course, before that Stock began to rise at all. But Mr. BARBER was not only successful for himself ; but for his Friends too, many of whom being abroad, and some of them incapable of coming with Safety to their own Country, committed the Management of their Affairs here, to him ; and very large Commissions for both buying and selling of Stock he received from foreign Parts, which he executed highly to the Satisfaction and Advantage of those, whom he acted in Trust for ; and so much was the general Opinion of his Acquaintance in Favour of Mr. BARBER's Judgment as well as Justice at this Time, that many of them gave him full Power, as he was upon the Spot, to behave in Relation to their Stocks, just as he should think proper ; without staying for any fresh Orders from them, and as he would do, were the Stocks his own.

By these Means he gain'd several very large Sums for his Friends ; and thereby he had a very great Quantity of ready Money, all that Time, at Command ; which he made so profitable a Use of, for both himself and them, as was highly beneficial to both, and which neither one or the other could have made, without such a mutual Confidence in, and Assistance of each other.

Thus with much Reputation to himself, as well as Advantage, he added to the Fortunes of his absent

sent Friends ; and had the Pleasure to see the Enlargement of that Wealth they had committed to his Care, accompany'd with an Encrease of his own Estate ; and we take upon us to affirm it, as what may be depended upon for Truth, that some Persons who entrusted Mr. BARBER with the Management of their Stocks and Money, were enrich'd by his just and judicious conducting of their Affairs, in this one Year only, to above three Times what they were before worth in the World ; and, as this fell to their Lot, so it fell to his own ; and we might in the Year 1720, have view'd him in the Possession of a more opulent Fortune, by the Chance of the Times (if we may be indulged the Expression) than, considering the Blow given him by the Death of the Queen, he could have had any reasonable Hopes, or probable Prospect of being ever able to acquire, thro' the longest Series of Application and Years, which were likely to come within the Compass of his Experience.

Not any Man of his Acquaintance envy'd Mr. BARBER his Acquisitions ; for what he got, he got honourably. And 'twas well known at that Time, and should be recorded to the Advantage of his Name and Memory, that he acted with the strictest Integrity and Justice by all who trusted him ; that he did the best, and made the most for these, that he was able to do ; and that to some of them he paid several thousand Pounds, after they were fully satisfy'd with the Profits they had received, and many Months after they could have any Reason to imagine, that there was another Shilling to be expected ; so that, for some Time, there were those, who were more ready to believe, that those Sums were Presents to them from himself, than what they had any legal Right to, 'till Mr. BARBER made appear to them, how their Right arose.

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This agreeable Addition to our Alderman's Circumstances began to make him abate of his Attention to Trade ; and he now first thought of lessening his own Fatigue, by entrusting a Person more with the Management of his Printing-House, than he had done before ; his more domestic Concerns were in the Hands of the Lady we have already mention'd ; whom as has been said, and as will be taken more Notice of, proved a good Steward ; and to whose Worth the Alderman, thro' Life and at Death, paid distinguishing Marks of his Regard.

That Influence, which is the constant Concomitant of Wealth, began to appear on the Side of Mr. BARBER in the City ; particularly in the Ward he lived in. He was more courted and valued nearer Home than he had been ; and as his Views were enlarged with his Fortune, so he had now more Leisure as well as Inclination to propagate an Interest of a different Kind to what he had ever attempted to cultivate before ; he conversed with his Neighbours, and the leading Men of the City, more than he had done ; and made Use of every Occasion he could lay hold of, to render himself acceptable to them, and make them his Friends ; he was never known to be sparing of his Money, when Money could forward any Design he might have in View ; and therefore he scrupled no Expence to gain an Interest, he was determined, in a future Day, to make his own Advantages of.

And it was not long after this before an Opportunity offer'd to try how far he had gain'd upon the Affections of some of those he had been recommended himself to the Acceptance of ; a Vacancy happening in the Court of Aldermen by the Death of the Alderman of *Castle-Banard* Ward, in 1722, Mr. BARBER became a Candidate to succeed him ; and was chosen with much less Opposition than he expected to meet with ; and the Latter was owing partly

partly to Accident ; and partly to his own Management.

Mr. *Ladbroke* the Distiller, and a near Relation to the Gentleman who is now become Alderman, in the Room of Mr. Alderman *Barber* deceased, happen'd, at that Juncture, to be at a Distance from *London* ; which prevented an Application to the Electors, as was intended, on his Behalf ; and which, if it could have been made, it was then generally believed, would have proved an effectual Disappointment to Mr. *Barber* ; but the Election coming on, and Mr. *Ladbroke* out of Town, our Alderman carry'd the Day ; and got a Seat in a Court, he was many Ways greatly serviceable to his Fellow Citizens in, afterwards.

Tho' this fortunate Incident did not more contribute to his Success, than his readily adjusting some Differences which had for some Time subsisted between the famous Mr. *Mist*, Printer, and as 'tis said, now and then Author of a well-known Weekly Paper, call'd *Mist's* and afterward's *Fog's Journal* ; both which, with the Proprietor, is now no more.

The Dispute between them was, as most Disputes between Tradesmen are, about Money ; Mr. *Mist* claim'd fifty Pounds for Trouble and Expences, he said, he had been at in serving Mr. *Barber* ; which our Alderman did not think was so fully his Due as Mr. *Mist* insisted upon it, it was ; and therefore the Payment of this Sum had been deny'd and delay'd. Mr. *Mist* thinking this a proper Juncture to make good his Claim, when Mr. *Barber* sent to him to appear on his Behalf, he not only absolutely refused joining with Mr. *Barber's* Friends, but let Mr. *Barber* know, that if the fifty Pounds were not instantly paid, he would print Bills against him ; and make Use of

all the Interest he had in the Ward to prevent his being chosen.

Mr. *Mist* was at that Time in much Vogue ; and in Favour with the Side Mr. *Barber* had his Dependance on for the supporting of his Election ; and he soon became sensible that he might be able to do him considerable Damage, by dividing those, who had the Ball before them ; and from whom, if they acted in their united Capacity, none were able to carry it away ; he therefore thought it wisest and best to make Matters up with Mr. *Mist* ; and stop his Hand ; for he had begun to shew that he would be as good as his Word ; having actually set the Press to work upon the Bills he spoke of ; he therefore sent him the Money that very Night, and the Affair was instantly adjusted to each other's Satisfaction ; *Mist* became as strenuous and hearty for him, as he otherwise would have been inveterate against him ; their former Amity was renew'd ; and they continued to converse not only with great Freedom, but Affection, 'till the Death of Mr. *Mist* dissolved the Acquaintance.

The Election going, as we have observed, in Mr. *BARBER*'s Favour ; and which 'twas thought it had not then done, had Mr. *Mist* persisted in his Opposition to him ; we are now to view him in a Point of Light superior to any we have seen him in before ; and taking a large Step towards that yet more exalted Station which we shall be obliged to view him in by and by.

Being sworn in Alderman of *Castle-Baynard* Ward, and taken his Seat in the Court of Aldermen accordingly, he almost wholly disengaged himself from the Business of Printing ; tho' it was carry'd on upon his Account ; and he did not quit his Property in the Printing-House and upon *Lambeth-Hill*, 'till he had been some Years abroad, and was come home again.

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However the Alderman finding his Constitution, as he apprehended declining, took the Advice of his Physicians, and was for going to Italy for the Recovery of his Health; accordingly therefore some little Time after he was chosen Alderman, he settled his Affairs; and committing the Care of his House to the Person, who had for some Years had the Charge of it, as has more than once been mention'd; and his Printing Business to the Management of one Mr. *Wright*, who had served his Time to him; he embark'd for *Naples*; where after a pleasant Voyage, he arrived in Safety.

The Alderman being still City-Printer, and having a very large Share of other Business, as a Printer, carrying on at his House, thought proper, notwithstanding the good Opinion he had of Mr. *Wright*, for both Capacity and Integrity, to procure and appoint two Friends, whose Worth he was well acquainted with, to inspect his Affairs, and be aiding to Mr. *Wright* in the Execution of his Trust; by which Means every Thing was directed to his Satisfaction, whilst they continued to be mutually engaged for his Interest.

It perhaps may be expected by those, who remember the Affair, that we should take Notice of an Accident which fell out here in the Way of his Business, whilst he was beyond Sea; and therefore we do it, and the rather, because 'tis the only one of the Sort worth taking Notice of.

The Managers for the Alderman had undertaken the printing of a fine Edition in Quarto, of the Works of the famous Duke of *Buckingham*, Father to him lately deceased; in which were some Pieces never printed before; which, as it proved, were in their Way of construing of them, thought to bear hard upon some Persons then in Power, to reflect on one of great Dignity present; and be too much in Favour of another who was absent.

This Work being finish'd, a Person of Distinction desired to be obliged with a Sight of it before Publication, which they were obliged in accordingly ; when, being a little too unguarded in exposing of it to a Friend and Foe, the offensive Parts came to the Knowledge of the Ministry, before Publication ; and the whole Impression was seized by the King's Messengers, to the Surprize and Loss of the Proprietors. As it had not been dispersed to the Publick, no Prosecution was order'd ; but the Impression, after suffering a Castration (a Loss in that Case, as well as others, which was not to be repair'd) was return'd for the Owner, to make the most of.

The Alderman was at *Paris*, and some other Places in *France*, and in several Parts of *Italy*, before he came back to *England* ; but the Place he chiefly and longest resided at, was *Naples* ; there was his delightful Abode, and he always spoke of it with the utmost Satisfaction and Pleasure ; he would often repeat it, that *Italy* might well be call'd the Garden of the World, and *Naples* the Garden of *Italy*.

This fine Climate, this Paradise of Sweets and Delights, as the Alderman would often call it, proved an excellent Physician to him ; he perfectly recover'd his Health ; and in a little more than three Years, he brought back with him a renew'd Constitution.

Whilst abroad, he made a very pretty Collection of Pictures ; not a large or a very expensive one, yet by good Judges who have seen it, some of them have been reckon'd to be very valuable and curious.

The Alderman lived very handsomely abroad ; but, for the Sake of his Health, rather retiredly than otherwise ; tho' not so privately, but that he kept up a genteel Correspondence with the Natives  
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and others, whilst at *Naples* ; and was so happy, as to render himself acceptable to all Men of Sense, and Persons of Distinction, with whom he conversed.

Several Tales and idle Reports were spread here, and no little Pains taken to gain Credit to them, of an Exchange of Civilities, and of some Favours between, not only some of the unhappy Gentlemen, belonging to the *Chevalier de St. George* and our late Alderman, but even between him and the *Chevalier* himself ; but as we call'd them idle Reports, so they proved ; for whatever might be suggested, not any Thing of that Nature, upon the strictest Enquiry, and his Examination, on his Arrival here, could be fix'd upon him ; so as to affect either his Liberty or Property ; and much less what was said to be aim'd at, by those who were the first common Reporters of the Rumour, - - - his Life ; for which Reason it must at least be allow'd, that if he had any Share in the Intercourse talk'd of ; he had behaved in a Manner, which had placed a Discovery out of the Reach of his Enemies ; and shew'd a Policy superior to their Watchfulness and Cunning.

But what argued more strongly his being innocent of the Charge brought against him, on this Head, than any Thing we have yet advanced, was his Behaviour, when he propos'd to come back to his own Country ; which we shall now give the Particulars of ; with the Reason for his returning at least a Year before he was expected.

The Gentlewoman, whom we have named for Governess of his House, in his Absence ; and who certainly had his Interest at Heart, full as much as could be desired or wish'd for, made some Discovery in Relation to his Affairs ; which she perswaded herself he would be very glad to become acquainted with ; and would be much for his

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Advantage to be so ; upon which she resolved to go over to the Alderman, herself ; and accordingly, making but very few privy to her Design, she embark'd for *Italy* ; and arrived safe at *Naples* much to the Satisfaction of him, for whose Interest she had run the Dangers of the Sea.

The State of his Affairs at Home, as represented to him by this Gentlewoman, made the Alderman determine upon a speedy Return to *Britain* ; and he gave Orders for the proper Preparations to be made for his Voyage, and Journey Home ; but in order to make the World sensible that he had been injuriously treated, and abused by malicious Stories, and false Reports, of his having carry'd on a Correspondence abroad contrary to the Laws of his Country, we hear that he took Care to acquaint the *British* Minister at *Paris*, about a Month before he set out, of his Design to return Home ; letting him know, what Day he proposed to embark, and where in *England* he intended to land. Pursuant to this Notice, and undoubtedly consistent with the Duty he owed his Master, and his watchful Care of his Majesty's Affairs, the *British* Ambassador at the *French* Court, the next Day dispatch'd an Express to *Whitehall*, we are told, with an Account of the Advices he had received from the Alderman ; who conscious, 'tis said, of his own Innocence, and that it was not in the Power of his Enemies, if he had any, to make out any Charge of Guilt against him ; was determined to make his coming home, as publick as possible ; so that if his Country was determined to enter into a Discussion of what common *Fame*, which is often a common Slanderer, had laid to his Door, he would furnish the Means of any Examination of his Conduct to be as open, as early, and as free, from Disguises as it was in his Power to render it ; which, had he been guilty, he undoubtedly would have

have endeavour'd to have conceal'd ; and especially that Part of his Conduct for which, some had pretended, he ought to be call'd to an Account.

The Alderman kept to the Rout he had laid down, and his Time of coming Home, as near as Winds and Waves would give him Leave, which he had acquainted the *British* Minister with ; and upon his Landing at *Dover*, he was met by one of the King's Messengers, with a Warrant from the Secretary of State to take him into Custody, considering what had been said, this was no more than what might well be expected to happen ; no more than what a Minister concern'd for his Master's Honour, would readily advise to ; but the Event shew'd, that the Suspicions which gave Rise to such a Procedure against the Alderman, however grounded, were false, and not to be supported by Facts ; not any Evidence appearing against him, or Papers found upon him when he was taken, which could support the Suggestions and false Assertions of those, who seem'd willing to make a Merit of accusing him.

Our Alderman was a Prize, which fell solely to the Care of Mr. *Crew* the Messenger ; who was so fortunate as to come up with him, immediately upon his Landing ; Mr. *Crew* used him in the most Gentleman-like Manner ; and yet, as he ought, did his Duty. He search'd his Pockets and examined his Baggage very carefully ; and the Alderman assisting his Enquiry, gave him Possession of all his Papers ; Mr. *Crew* treated the Alderman like a Man of Honour, and might be said to accompany, rather than have him in Custody ; when he had secured his Papers, the Alderman was upon his Parole, and so much at Liberty to do as he pleased, and go when he pleased, that he could not properly be said to have been a Prisoner an Hour. This genteel Usage of him by the Messenger, made the  
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Affair rather Matter of Amusement to the Alderman, than an Uneasiness ; he behaved like himself to *his Guide*, as he call'd him ; and always spoke of Mr. *Crew's* Behaviour to him with much Pleasure.

They came to *London*, and the Court being then at *Windsor*, drove thither the same Day ; and the next Morning the Alderman went in a Chair to attend the Lord Viscount *Townshend*, who was then Secretary of State ; and by whose Warrant he was taken into Custody.

The Alderman's Papers had been deliver'd, at the Secretary's Office, the Night before ; and of Course examined ; so that when he came himself, the Affair was soon over ; in about a Quarter of an Hour the Lord *Townshend* dismiss'd him ; the Messenger was discharged of his Prisoner ; and four Gentlemen of well-known Characters and Fortune, becoming Security for the Alderman's Appearance to answer any Charges which might be exhibited against him, my Lord wish'd him Joy of his safe Arrival, and parted with him with great good Nature and Complaisance ; and thus this Mushroom Matter, like *Jonah's* Goad, which sprung up in a Night, and perish'd in a Night, might serve, for any thing we know to the contrary, a present Turn ; but it went no farther ; and the Alderman heard no more of it.

Being now at Leisure for his private Affairs, he soon made a very considerable Alteration in them ; for he did not entirely quit Business, as we hinted before, 'till his Return from *Italy* ; but then, he shook Hands with it ; parted with his Printing-House ; and disposed of his Place of City-Printer ; and he seem'd so sensible that he had been able to do these, so much more to his Advantage, by being at Home, than he possibly could have done, had he continued abroad ; that it settled him in his  
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good Opinion of, and establish'd his Regards for the Person, who ventured upon an Element seldom agreeable to the Fair Sex, chiefly in View of persuading him to come and take Care of that Interest, which, as she apprehended, no other Person was able of taking so much Care of, as himself.

Being upon the Head *Printing*, we may as well mention it here as afterwards, tho' it was a Transaction, which did not take Place, till a few Years before the Alderman's Death. When he wholly gave up every other Interest in the Printing Way, he reserved the Reversion, given him by her Majesty Queen *Anne*, of Mr. *Baskel's* Patent for being King's Printer, tho' he was afterwards prevail'd upon to part with it on Considerations, which convincingly proved, that what the Lord High Treasurer *Oxford* had said upon presenting of it to him, was true ; and that his Friends, who had engaged his Lordship to do him that Piece of Service, design'd him an Emolument, which should become sufficient Provision for him, had he had no other Business, but the Produce of that, to have depended upon.

And now we are to consider him above his Business, leaving off Trade, and exchanging the House he had carry'd it on in, for others more suitable to the Station, Providence had placed him in ; and more equal to the Post an Alderman of the chief City of the Kingdom, and who had in View the chief Magistracy of the City, ought to maintain.

From *Lambeth-Hill* our Alderman removed to a House fronting the Fields, at the upper End of *Queen's-Square, Ormond-Street*, which House he purchased. This was the Place of his Residence in Town. The House is well situated, has a fine Prospect, thro' the opening of the Square, towards *Hampstead* and *Highbate* ; and the Alderman used to

think it stood in an agreeable and as healthy a Part of the Town, as he could have pitch'd upon.

But tho' he was much pleas'd with the Choice he had made in Town, he was much more so with that he had made in the Country : This was a Seat which he also purchas'd, which formerly belong'd to the famous Sir *William Temple*, at *East-Sheen*, near *Richmond* new Park ; and our Alderman would often mention it, seemingly with great Satisfaction, that he was in Possession of what so great a Man as Sir *William Temple*, valued himself upon the Choice of, and prized beyond all the Grandeur and Pleasures of Court.

This House is as pleasantly situated, as any fo near *London* can be, and is, with the Gardens, in excellent Order. Its Neighbourhood to the King's Park at *Richmond*, and a fine Country adjoining, supply a thousand Engagements for the Mind, and all that might invite to Exercise, or, contribute to the Health of the Body.

Here was the Alderman's sweet Retreat from the Noise, the Hurry and the Fatigues of the Town ; from empty Shew ; the Impertinence of some, and Importunities of others ; 'twas here, as a wise Man, that he enjoy'd all the rational Pleasures of Life ; and had he been otherwise, in this Retirement he might have indulg'd himself in Weakness or Wick-edness, and been out of the Reach of the strictest Enquiry ; but 'twas here that he laid by the *Alder-man*, for the more amiable Name of *Friend* ; and with a few, a well-chosen Number of Friends, gave into all the Agreeableness of Conversation, they could mutually furnish for each others Entertainment. At this Villa he lived respected, and valued, by all his Neighbours ; this was his constant Place of Abode, whilst his Health would permit it to be so ; and the City Affairs and fine Weather afforded him

him Opportunities of enjoying the Pleasures and Benefits of all its Delicacies and Engagements.

And thus the Alderman lived a pleasant, and a happy and a careful Life, dividing his Time between Town and Country; in the one as a Guardian of the City, and a publick Magistrate; when in the other, a perfect Country Gentleman, free, easy of Access, open-hearted and hospitable; and treated all Mankind suitable to their Desert and Distinction, who came near him.

True to his Friends and his Principles, he continued to gain upon the Affection of his Fellow Citizens; and in about three Years after his Return from abroad, was, with Sir *John Williams*, chosen Sheriff of *London* and *Middlesex*, and in this Station he behaved to universal Satisfaction; and conducted himself with great Equality and Candour, which gave Hopes of an agreeable Behaviour, should he live, as he afterwards did, to become their chief Magistrate.

Unless it was merely to swell this Account, we can only take Notice of one remarkable Event, which fell within the Compass of his Power, during his being Sheriff, and that was the Case of the notorious Colonel *Chartres*. In the Year that Sir *John Williams* and Mr. BARBER were Sheriffs, was Colonel *Chartres* try'd, convicted, and sentenced to be hang'd, at the *Old Bailey*, for ravishing a Maid in his own House.

By Vertue of this Sentence the Sheriffs of *London* became intitled, as a Forfeiture, to what belong'd to the Colonel within the Boundaries of their Jurisdiction; and by Vertue of an immediate Enquiry, they found him to be possess'd of about seven Thousand Pounds Worth of South-Sea Stock, which they seized upon accordingly, had the Stock transferr'd to themselves, afterwards sold it, and appropriated the Money arising from the

Sale, as they had a Right to do, to their own Use.

But to return to Mr. Sheriff; he behaved as such from first to last, with Reputation to himself; he served his Fellow-Citizens, whenever 'twas in his Power to serve them; acted, when in the Office, with Honour; and went out of it with Applause.

He maintain'd the Reputation he had got, and supported the Ascendency he had obtain'd over the Hearts and Affections of his Fellow-Citizens, by joining in every Measure that might advance their Interest and their Honour; or be thought conducive to the Security of the Liberties and Privileges of the City of *London*; till by an interrupted Course of Attention to their common Rights, and the Service of their general Welfare, from going out of one Office, he came within Sight of another --- the Office of the highest Honour, and the greatest Power, of the most Importance, and the largest Trust, that the City of *London* has to dispose of.

And to this he succeeded, or rather was elected (according to the Course of Rotation, which was at that Time in Use) in the Year 1733; a Year which will not readily be forgot by the Trading Part of the Nation in general, or by the Citizens of *London* in particular, for giving Rise to a Scheme, which gave a general Dislike, and became the Object of universal Abhorrence.

This was what is commonly call'd *the Excise Scheme*; and whilst that so much detested Project is remembred with Dread and Aversion, the Lord Mayor of the City of *London's* Behaviour upon that Occasion, will always be commemorated to his Honour.

During the Course of this Bill in the House of Commons, Mr. BARBER fill'd the City-Chair and he left no Means in his Power unessay'd, to defeat a Project big with Slavery, and highly injurious

rious to the Immunities of the Subjects, and destructive of the Trade of the Kingdom, according to the Apprehension of many ; and he succeeded so well in his arduous Endeavours for the Service of his Countrymen, by the noble Stand he made, and the powerful Opposition he procured in the City of *London* against the Bill, that the entire Defeat of it was perhaps more owing to himself, than to any one Gentleman in the Kingdom.

Whilst Lord Mayor of the City of *London*, he supported the Dignity of the Office of Supreme Magistrate in a Manner, which did Honour to the City, as well as himself ; he proved an upright Magistrate ; behaved with Impartiality ; did Justice to both Sides (whoever came before him) to the best of his Judgment ; and kept, as they call it, as grand a Mayoralty, as ever was kept in the City of *London* ; he spared no Cost, dealt generously, lived sumptuously, and enter'd upon every Method in his Power, to ingratiate and oblige.

*Bishop's-Gate* rebuilt, and *Eudgate* repair'd, during the Mayoralty of the Deceased, are publick Testimonies of his Regard to a right Discharge of his Duty, and of his having, whatever might contribute, either to common Utility, or the general Satisfaction of his Fellow-Citizens, at Heart.

Before we divest him of this Office, 'twould be as injurious as any Thing we could offer to his Memory, not to let him put in his Claim, as Principal, to an Act of Mercy, which arose wholly from himself, for which Multitudes of miserable Wretches have been obliged to him, and have had Cause to bless his Name ; and whilst the State of Wickedness in *London* and *Middlesex* continues in the like Situation it has been in, or is in at present, much greater Numbers will undoubtedly have Reason to bless his Name, and remember his Conduct  
upon

upon that Account, with great Thankfulness and Gratitude.

This was the well-known Regulation at the Sessions-House at the *Old-Baily*, which proceeded from his own just Way of Thinking, and the tender Sentiments of a compassionate Heart, for the Distress'd and Unhappy. When an accused Person was upon Trial at the *Old-Baily*, and acquitted, he was obliged to pay the Fees of *Newgate*, or go back for Want of Money; where many of the poor Souls perish'd in Prison for no other Crime, perhaps, but Poverty.

To put a Stop to such terrible Cruelty, he procured it to be establish'd by an Order of the Court, an Order which, as we are a Christian Country, 'twould be a Shame to us, should not prevail all over the Kingdom, that when any accused Persons were acquitted by their Country, they should instantly be discharged in Court, without paying any Fees upon any Account whatever; and it has been strictly adhered to ever since.

The incessant Huzzas and Acclamations of the Croud, as our Alderman pass'd the Streets, on the Day he gave Place to his Successor, was a Testimony, which he never wanted afterwards, that his Conduct had been approved of by the People, as generally, perhaps, as any past Magistrate ever met with, or any future one ever will.

This Popularity he was arrived at, he was willing to make Use of, to gratify an Inclination he had of procuring a Seat in Parliament; and in the Year 1734, being the Year of the General Election, offer'd himself a Candidate for the City of *London*.

His Friends, whom he chiefly consulted upon this Occasion, were sanguine on the Side of the Attempt; and Success with them was not to be doubted of, tho' he found himself mistaken in their Judgment; they took Things from Appearances only, and were misled

missed by false Lights ; they made no Allowances for Jockeying, Ministerial Influence, Artifice, Dividing of the Interest, &c. but took all for Gold that glister'd ; and the Event made it out that they judged wrong. He follow'd their Advice, stood the Test ; and, tho' at the Election Mr. Alderman BARBER had more single Votes, than any one of the Candidates, yet he had a less Number upon the Poll every Night, than any other Person who stood Candidate with him ; and by proper Management was thrown out ; or rather distanced by a Person, who never was thought of upon such an Account before ; and a Gentleman, 'tis pretty certain, the worthy Liverymen of *London* will never put to the Trouble of an Attendance at *Westminster*, upon their Account, again.

If the Alderman had taken the Opinion of the Gentlewoman whom we have so often mention'd, he would not have set up at all. This Gentlewoman, to use her own Words, was for having him content himself with the Share of Reputation he had gain'd, and sit down easy ; for the Liverymen, as she believed, were engaged ; and none but those could at that Juncture be of any Service to him ; but the Alderman happen'd at that Time to differ with her in Opinion, and the Success he met with, proved who was most in the Right.

The Alderman was but little chagrined at his Disappointment ; it help'd to convince him, that he was something out in his Reckoning ; and that, tho', as 'tis often said, he had it in Quantity, he wanted it in Quality ; and that he did not know his Friends, from those, who only pretended to be such ; but the Whole soon wore off, he forgot it all ; and to the Day of his Death, made the Serving or Obliging the Liverymen and Citizens of *London*, a Point with him, he would never depart from.

As one Testimony of this, we offer the following Letter, as wrote by the Alderman, to some of his Friends, who had voted for him at that Time.

GENTLEMEN,

**I** Shall always retain a grateful Remembrance of the Favour you intended me. I hope my Friends will accept of my most thankful Acknowledgments for the Obligations I lie under, for their Appearances for me on the Days of Election. I declare that my principal Motive to hope for succeeding to the Honour you design'd me, was to have it more in my Power than ever I have had it before, to appear for the Honour and Interest of my Fellow-Citizens; the Point I always have had, and whilst I live shall have, at Heart. But as four worthy Gentlemen, each of whom is much more deserving of the high and honourable Trust, have met the distinguish'd Regards of the Gentlemen of the Livery, I chearfully acquiesce in their Determination; and shall think it an Happiness, if any small Services of mine, in the Station their Decision has left me, may contribute to preserve the Liberties, and promote the Peace and Prosperity of the City of London.

I am,

QUEEN-SQUARE,

June 20th, 1740.

with great Affection,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

JOHN BARBER.

The Alderman being determined to make one Push after this for a Seat in Parliament, felt the Pulses of his Friends, as to the putting him in Nomi-

Nomination as a Candidate for Member for the City of *London*; at the approaching general Election; but tho' he would have been glad of becoming a Candidate, yet he was resolved not to set up by himself; but to be determined by the Resolution of the Livery-men of *London*, who had appointed a Meeting at *Vintner's-Hall*, in order to approve of four Persons proper to represent the City in Parliament.

To cultivate a first Interest, some private, as well as publick Attempts were made. But those proved ineffectual; and tho' the Gentlemen at *Vintner's-Hall*, well knew, and acknowledged Mr Alderman BARBER's Merit, yet they did not think proper to nominate him a Candidate, according to his Expectations and Hopes; they considered him under Age and Infirmities; and too far in the decline of Life to be able to go through the Fatigue of a due Attendance on the Business of the House of Commons; and therefore by a large Majority carried it against the Inclination of the Deceased.

Though this Resolution of the Livery was not entirely to his good liking; he acquiesc'd in it; and gave up all Designs of ever endeavouring again for an Honour, which he had made two unsuccessful Essays to obtain.

But it is Time to be drawing towards a Conclusion, and to close the Whole, with a just and general Character of our deceased Alderman, from the Time, at least of his appearing in the Court of Aldermen, after his Return from *Italy*, to his Death.

He was constant in his Attendance upon the Business of the City, being seldom or never absent, when the Court of Aldermen met; and it must have been something very extraordinary which kept him from the Bench, any one Day of a Session, at the *Old-Bailey*; in this latter Place, as he had there

Opportunities of discovering his Inclination, he was always on the Side of Mercy; and by his Discernment and judicious Decisions, he has often saved the Prosecuted, and delivered the Innocent from the revengeful Hands of their Prosecutors; who, for Want of so good a Judge and Advocate (for the Distressed were always sure of finding both in him) might not have been able to have made their own Innocence, or the Malice and Wickedness of those who endeavoured to make them be thought guilty, appear to the Court.

He was accounted a good Magistrate, never allowing, 'tis said, any private Application to bias him in the Distribution of Justice; and 'twas but very few who came before him, but went away satisfied with his Determination.

But if we may view him with Advantage in his judicial Capacity, 'tis with like Satisfaction we find him in Debate, in Committees, in the more general Direction of the City Affairs in a Court of Aldermen; 'twas here he discovered equal Judgment and Capacity. He seldom or never made long Speeches, but very few Men spoke more to the Purpose; what he said was strong, short and decisive; he had a great Command of Temper; would often work up an Opposer to Warmth, but always kept cool himself; and by mixing sometimes Humour, with Arguments suitable to the Nature of the Matter in Debate, commonly got the better of his Antagonist, on the Side of the Question he entered the Lists.

He was heartily in the Interest of his Country in general; and of the City of *London* in particular; most assiduously endeavoured, and ardently desired to promote the Honour and Welfare of both. He always bravely stood up for, and strenuously asserted the Rights and Privilege of his

his Fellow-Citizens; and in a Word, as no Man ever lived, who more endeavoured than himself to render the whole Tenour of his Actions acceptable to his Fellow-Citizens; so it may with much Truth be averred, that no Man enjoyed more of their Affection when living; or was ever more lamented by them when dead, than this our late worthy Alderman.

He departed this Life about Eleven of the Clock at Night, on *Friday* the second Day of *January* last, at his House in *Queen-Square, Ormond-Street*; from whence he was conveyed in a Hearse with six Horses handsomely attended, and decently interred, according to his Desire, in *Mortlack* his Parish Church; his Pall being supported by his six following worthy Friends: The Right honourable the Lord-Mayor; Sir *John Barnard*; Sir *Robert Godschall*; Mr Alderman *Westley*; Mr *Marshall*, and Mr *Hoar*, Aldermen and Sheriffs; who to shew their Value for the Deceased, while living, paid these their mournful Regards to his Remains, when dead.

The Deceased was, at the Time of his Death, President of *St Bartholomew's Hospital*; to which, by Will he bequeathed seven Hundred Pounds; and three Hundred Pounds to *Bethlehem*. He left one Hundred Pounds to one who served his Time with him; and several smaller Legacies to Friends, and Servants; and he left handsome Testimonies of his Gratitude, and Obligations to his Friends, the late Lord Viscount *Bolingbroke*, Mr *Pope*, and Dr *Swift*. But the Remainder of his Estate and Effects he devised to her, to whom he thought himself under most Obligations; and accordingly, appointed Mrs *Sarah Duffkin*, sole Executrix, and his Residuary Legatee; by which Means she becomes,

comes possessed of his Town and Country House, with the Furniture of both; his Land Estate at *East-Sheen*; which is lett for upwards of two Hundred Pounds a Year to her own Brother; and it is conjectured to about twenty Thousand Pounds in ready Money.

We cannot conclude without taking Notice, that tho' we have mentioned the Alderman's Executrix and Residuary Legatee by the Name of Mrs *Duffkin*, every Time we have had any Occasion to speak of that Gentlewoman in the Course of the foregoing Treatise, yet, that we have done so merely in Compliance to the Appellation she is distinguished by in his Will; for if the Assurances of some Persons who pretend to have been in the Secret, may be depended upon, that Lady was as nearly related to our deceas'd Alderman, as a License from *Doctors-Commons* duly executed, could make her.



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